Adverse Reaction of Chief Ministers on the Award of Finance Panel

391. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Ministers assailed the award of the Finance Panel at the N.D.C. meeting held recently;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward any modification in the award of the Finance Panel; and

(c) what were the suggestions made by the Chief Ministers while assailing the award of Finahce Panel?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (c) At the National Development Council meeting held on 18-19th June, 1990, some of the Chief Ministers expressed reservations over some of the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission in their Second Report for 1990-95. These broadly related to over-estimation of States' revenue receipts, under-estimation of revenue expenditure, loss of revenue on account of implementation of prohibition policy, methodology adopted for normative estimates, non-provision of upgradation grants etc. the suggestions, *inter alia*, related to larger devolution of resources from the Centre to the States, special long term loans for reducing deficits, assistance for covering gap on non-plan revenue account and the need to discuss at the NDC meeting the recommendations relating to plan revenue deficit grants.

(b) Government have already accepted the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission, and no modifications are now envisaged.

Development of Doringibadi in Orissa as a Hill Station

392. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to develop Doringibadi in Phulabani district of Orissa as a hill station;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any scheme for this purpose;

(c) whether the State Government has sent any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, what action the Central Government have taken to implement the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Government of Orissa have not proposed any scheme or project for Central financial assistance at Doringibadi in Phulabani District. However, Ministry of tourism has agreed in principle to extend financial asistance for construction of a Tourist Complex at Phulabani on the request of the State Government.

393. *[Transferred to the 22nd August, 1990]*

Vacancies of Judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court

394. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of vacancies of Judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court as on 15th July, 1990; and

(b) what steps are being taken to fill up these vacancies?